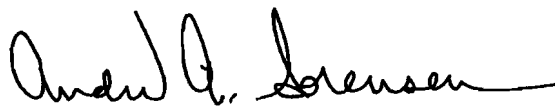


Program Planning Summary

Bachelor of Social Work

University of South Carolina

College of Social Work



Andrew A. Sorensen
President

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***Program Planning Summary
New Program
Fall 2008
Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)
College of Social Work
University of South Carolina***

The proposed new major for the College of Social Work (COSW) to be implemented in Fall 2008 will offer a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program on the central Columbia campus of The University of South Carolina.

In this new program proposal, the BSW program will require a total of 120 credits. The first cohort of students in the BSW program would graduate in May 2012.

The College of Social Work expects approximately forty students enrolled in the Bachelor of Social Work on the Columbia campus when it begins, with modest increases in subsequent years.

Graduates of the new BSW program will be able to work as entry-level, generalist, professional practitioners in the field of social work. They will work in a variety of different professional settings in direct practice, helping children, families, individuals with disabilities, criminal offenders, and the elderly.

Justification of need for proposed program

A BSW program for undergraduate students at USC will enhance their possibilities to become professional social workers. In order to be a licensed social worker at the baccalaureate level in the state of South Carolina, a BSW degree is required, in addition to a licensure exam.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook, the number of social work jobs across the country will increase between 18 and 26 per cent through 2014 (BLS, 2006). The National Association of Social Workers also indicates an impending shortage of social workers and describes specific needs for social workers working with the elderly, children and families (NASW, 2006).

According to the US Census Bureau, 13.8% of South Carolinians live below the poverty line (US Census Bureau, 2006). Given South Carolina's current number of residents, 596,332 individuals live below the poverty line and will probably need some type of social services.

Duplication of programs in the state

There are only six Bachelor of Social Work programs throughout the state of South Carolina. Benedict College, Coker College, Columbia College, Limestone College, South Carolina State University and Winthrop University offer BSW programs in the state at this time. These are all relatively small programs.

The College of Social Work does not expect to compete directly with any of these BSW programs. The College of Social Work will allow for more students in the state to graduate with a Bachelor in Social Work. This will result in more social workers being available for the existing and increasing openings for generalist social workers.

Relationship of the proposed program to existing programs at the proposing institution

The College of Social Work expects that a significant number of the graduates of the proposed BSW program will apply for and pursue the Advanced Standing Master of Social Work (MSW) at USC. This program allows graduates of BSW programs to obtain an MSW in one additional year of full-time study.

The College of Social Work currently offers dual degree programs with the Arnold School of Public Health and the School of Law. USC offers the options for graduate students to pursue a Master of Social Work/Master of Public Health or a Master of Social Work/Juris Doctor or a Master of Social Work/Master of Public Administration.

The College of Social Work administers an interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate Program in Drug and Addiction Studies with course offerings from many other disciplines, such as criminal justice, public health, medicine and psychology.

Relationship of the proposed program to programs at other institutions

Undergraduate students enrolled in the BSW program in Columbia, SC will meet the field internship requirement for the program at local field agencies in this community. This will mean an even greater presence for the College of Social Work in the local area.

There is currently no Bachelor of Social Work program in place at any of the USC campuses. The College of Social Work understands that USC Upstate is interested in developing a similar program in the Greenville area and we plan to explore collaborative possibilities with USC Upstate.

The South Carolina Center for Gerontology at USC is currently a partnership among numerous universities in South Carolina, namely Clemson University, Coastal Carolina University, Lander University, South Carolina State University, and Winthrop University. For this center, the College of Social Work administers an interdisciplinary certificate of Graduate Study in Gerontology. The Center for Gerontology hosted a joint, statewide Summit on Aging focusing on The Aging Brain in Fall 2006.

Estimated Costs

The estimated cost for the proposed new BSW program in Columbia is modest (approximately \$70,000 per year) once the program is up and running. Included in this are the costs associated with hiring one full-time faculty member (in addition to the current full-time Undergraduate Coordinator), one part-time administrative assistant to assist with admissions, recruitment and program coordination, and technology equipment for these two individuals. The College of

Social Work does not expect that it will need much additional office space as it can use the Alumni House (1731 College Street) differently.